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Subject: Survey of the Arab Political Situation Regarding Palestine for the week ending 29 April 1948  
Report No: RPA-329  
Date of Information: 22-29 April 1948  
Place Acquired: Jerusalem  
Date Acquired: 28 April 1948  
Evaluation: B-3  
Date of Report: 29 April 1948  
Source: [ ] Arab Military Activity in Palestine.

1. Negotiations among Arab leaders on Palestine are currently proceeding at the highest level. Of the several conflicting groups, the purely Palestinian one represented by the MUFTI is the weakest and 'ABDALLAH momentarily the strongest. An Egyptian anti-'ABDALLAH position, reportedly instigated by Egyptian Palace circles, is said to be crystallizing. The plan of the GHARABAT group in Syria (see RPA-301) to use the Palestine disorders as a lever for overthrowing existing Arab dynasties has failed out. The British and industrial Arab circles throughout the Middle East are said to be viewing it with great disfavor, and the (former are reportedly in the process of transferring their support in part from Syria to Trans-Jordan. The reversals suffered by the forces under Fawzi Qawuqji are said to have caused a further set-back to GHARABAT's plans.

2. As a result of the current failures of the Arab Liberation Army, its future structure and command are said to be in doubt. The tendency now is reportedly to rely on the Arab Legion, especially since it is not considered likely that the regular armies of other Arab States will participate in the Palestinian campaign.

3. It is predicted that in the event that the Arab Legion is defeated—which source considers not unlikely—the GHARABAT group may regain lost prestige and influence. Such an eventuality is said to have motivated Syrian circles to play a waiting game for the present, hoping that 'ABDALLAH will burn his fingers in Palestine.

4. In this morass of political intrigue, the Palestinian Arabs have reportedly been completely submerged, particularly in view of the loss in power of their self-appointed leader, the MUFTI. Palestinian Opposition leaders are said to be throwing their full weight behind 'ABDALLAH in order to break completely any hold which the MUFTI still have on the local population.

5. Concentrations of Egyptian troops on the southern frontier of Palestine, and of Syrian and Lebanese troops on the northern have been reported. Source believes that these troops may be so stationed in order to exert political pressure rather than to conduct military operations.

6. Discussions are said to be in progress about the establishment of a British Military Mission to act in an observatory capacity in the Arab negotiations. This mission is reportedly to be headed by Sir John Pasha, and to consist of British officers, etc.

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1. The first of these is the fact that the Commission has not yet received any information from the Government of the United States regarding the results of its investigation of the activities of the American Friends Service Committee in the Soviet Union. The Commission is therefore unable to make any statement regarding the results of its investigation of the activities of the American Friends Service Committee in the Soviet Union.

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